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LEITCHWORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ***Annual Report***

of the

## ***Medical Officer of Health***

for the year

### ***1955***

including the  
REPORT OF THE  
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR



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*To the Chairman and Members of the Letchworth  
Urban District Council*

Mr. Chairman,

At the request of the Ministry of Health, and in accordance with the Sanitary Officer's Orders, the following report is submitted. It is the thirty-seventh annual report on the sanitary circumstances and vital statistics of your district.

## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF 1955

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :  
VICTOR R. WALKER, M.B., Ch.B., B.Sc., D.P.H.  
(also Divisional M.O., Herts C.C.)

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :  
ARTHUR JUMP, F.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS :  
KENNETH A. BENNETT, M.S.I.A.  
STANLEY PAPE, M.S.I.A. (resigned May)  
GEORGE W. WHITE, M.S.I.A.  
PHILIP J. ADAMS, M.S.I.A. (April–December)  
J. RUSSEL ADDERLEY, M.S.I.A. (from July)

CLERICAL ASSISTANTS :  
MISS V. A. PAMMENTER  
R. E. GRAY (Military Service as from August)  
MISS E. A. HENDERSON (from July)

DISINFECTOR AND RODENT OPERATIVE :  
L. CARR

## SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

*The area of the district is 4,897 acres.*

*Inhabited Houses.* There were 6,507 occupied dwellings according to the rate books at 31st December.

*Population.* The Registrar-General estimates the civilian population for mid year 1955 to be 21,760, an increase of 210 persons.

*Rateable Value.* The rateable value is estimated to be £186,473 and the product of the penny rate is £740.

### *Vital Statistics*

#### *Births*

		Total	Males	Females
Live births :	Legitimate ...	299	136	163
	Illegitimate ...	8	3	5
Totals ...		<hr/> 307 <hr/>	<hr/> 139 <hr/>	<hr/> 168 <hr/>

The birth rate is 14.1, which compares with that of 15.0 for England and Wales. Last year the rate was 14.0.

		Total	Males	Females
Still births :	Legitimate ...	9	6	3
	Illegitimate ...	—	—	—
Totals ...		<hr/> 9 <hr/>	<hr/> 6 <hr/>	<hr/> 3 <hr/>

The still-birth rate per thousand live and still births is 28.5 and compares with the rate of 23.1 for England and Wales.

#### *Deaths*

Total 218, Males 105, Females 113.

Forty-one more than last year. The crude death rate is 10.0 and the corrected death rate is 10.4 per thousand civilian population compared with 11.7 for England and Wales.

*Death from puerperal causes.* There was one death and the maternal mortality rate is 3.1.

## *Infant Mortality*

		Under four weeks	Total under one year
Legitimate	...	3	5
Illegitimate	...	—	—
		—	—
Totals	...	3	5
		—	—

The rate per thousand live births is 16.2 and compares with the rate of 24.9 for England and Wales.

The causes of death were :

Ref. No.					Males	Females
1	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	1
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	3	8
11	„ „ lung bronchus	...	...	...	7	1
12	„ „ breast	...	...	...	1	5
13	„ „ uterus	...	...	...	—	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	9	12
15	Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	3	1
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	11	22
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	24	13
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	1	—
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	6	18
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	3	6
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	1
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	4	3
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	4	3
25	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	3	2
26	Ulcer, stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	—	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	...	...	...	1	—
28	Nephritis, and nephrosis	...	...	...	2	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	—	1
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	—	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	14	6
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	4	1
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	3	2
35	Suicide	...	...	...	—	1
					—	—
	Totals all causes	...	...	...	105	113

There was no unusual or excessive mortality during the year: there were no deaths from diphtheria, or whooping cough, but there was one from measles.

Tables I, II and III give comparative vital statistics for the years 1951 to 1955 inclusive. Death rates and birth rates are based on the Registrar-General's estimate of the population.

**TABLE I**

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
<b>Cancer</b>					
Number of deaths:					
Males ... ..	18	22	20	20	20
Females ... ..	16	18	17	20	28
Death rate per 1,000 pop.	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.8	2.2
<b>Puerperal Causes</b>					
Number of deaths ... ..	—	—	—	—	1
Death rate per 1,000 births	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.1
<b>Pulmonary Tuberculosis</b>					
Number of cases notified:					
Males ... ..	50	105	75	68	88
Females ... ..	25	27	28	22	40
Attack rate per 1,000 pop.	0.48*	1.0*	0.66*	0.54*	0.36*
Number of deaths:					
Males ... ..	—	—	—	2	—
Females ... ..	—	2	1	1	—
Death rate per 1,000 pop.	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.14	0.0
<b>Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis</b>					
Number of cases notified:					
Males ... ..	3	2	2	3	6
Females ... ..	2	1	4	4	2
Attack rate per 1,000 pop.	0.24	0.0*	0.1*	0.09*	0.0*
Number of deaths:					
Males ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Females ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Death rate per 1,000 pop.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

\* Based on number of local new cases (1955—pulmonary 8, non-pulmonary 0).

TABLE II

## URBAN DISTRICT OF LETCHWORTH

	1921 census	1931 census	1951 census	1952	1953	1954	1955
Number of inhabited houses December 31	2,708	3,897	5,887	6,045	6,257	6,413	6,507
Population—local estimate	10,832	14,808	20,750	21,036	21,273	21,804	22,000
Number of live births	291	217	337	304	319	301	307
Birth rate (based on local estimate of population)	20.2	14.6	16.2	14.4	15.0	13.8	14.0
Number of infant deaths	12	9	8	10	7	5	5
Infant mortality	55	41.4	24	32.9	22	16.6	16.2
Maternal mortality	—	17.7	—	—	—	—	—
Number of deaths	77	105	200	190	200	177	218
Death rate (local estimate of population):							
Crude	7.1	7	9.6	9.0	9.4	8.1	9.9
Corrected			10.4	9.8	9.8	8.4	10.2
Population—Registrar-General's estimate	10,302	14,454	20,321	21,040	21,260	21,550	21,760
Birth rate (based on Registrar-General's estimate of population):							
Crude	21.3	15.0	16.3	14.4	15.0	14.0	14.1
Corrected			15.4	13.6	15.0	14.0	14.1
Death rate (based on Registrar-General's estimate of population):							
Crude	7.5	7.2	9.7	9.0	9.4	8.2	10.0
Corrected			10.5	9.8	9.8	8.5	10.4



# TABLE III

## LETCHWORTH URBAN

	1921	1931	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Birth rate (crude)	21.3	15.0	16.3	14.4	15.0	14.0	14.1
(corrected)			15.4	13.6	15.0	14.0	14.1
Death rate (crude)	7.5	7.8	9.7	9.0	9.4	8.2	10.0
(corrected)			10.5	9.8	9.8	8.5	10.4
Infant mortality ...	55	41	24	32.9	22.0	16.6	16.2

## ENGLAND AND WALES

	census	census	census				
Birth rate ...	22.4	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.1	15.0
Death rate ...	12.1	12.3	12.5	11.3	11.4	11.3	11.7
Infant mortality ...	83	66	29.6	27.6	26.8	25.5	24.9

One hundred and sixty smaller towns (25,000—50,000)

England and Wales

Birth rate ...	22.7	15.6	16.7	15.5	15.7	15.2	14.1
Death rate ...	—	11.3	12.5	11.2	12.2	11.3	10.0
Infant mortality ...	84	62	27.6	25.8	30.8	25.5	16.3

## SECTION B. GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(i) *Staff.* See list at front of Report.

For details of the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors reference should be made to the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(ii) *Other services.*

*Treatment Centres and Clinics.* The Urban Council is responsible for the treatment of scabies and a clinic continues to be held as often as necessary at the Health Office in Gernou Road. Arrangements have been made with the Baldock Urban, Hitchin Urban and Hitchin Rural Councils for treatment of cases from their districts.

*Section 47 National Assistance Act 1948, National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951.* One case was dealt with during the year.

## SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. (i) *Water.* In response to circular 170/47, issued by the Ministry of Health, I submit the following information:

- (i) (a) The supply has been satisfactory in quality.
- (b) The supply has been satisfactory in quantity.
- (ii) The supply is sampled bacteriologically every two weeks, the samples being taken systematically at the pumping stations and from various points in the area of supply. The results are uniformly satisfactory. Chemical analyses are taken every four weeks and show little variation.
- (iii) There is no plumbo-solvent action.
- (iv) The supply is subjected to chlorination.
- (v) With the exception of five cottages at Radwell in the extreme north-east, and two houses and a petrol filling station and cafe at Jack's Hill to the south-west, all the properties in the Urban District are provided with a direct piped supply of water from the Company's mains. There are no standpipes. The supplies from the private wells are kept under observation and are sampled. Samples taken from the Radwell wells proved unsatisfactory and efforts are being made to obtain a mains supply to these cottages.

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.* No change.

2. *Rivers and Streams.* No change.

3. (i) *Closet accommodation.* No change.

(ii) *Public Cleansing.* The whole of this work is carried out under the supervision of the Surveyor. The house refuse is disposed of by "controlled tipping" at the Arlesey clay pits in the Biggleswade rural district.

(iii), (iv), (v) and (viii). These matters are fully dealt with in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(vii) *Swimming baths and pools.* (a) Public. The open-air swimming pool in the Norton Common continues to be well patronized, and there were 113,836 attendances during the year. A series of samples were taken and submitted to bacteriological examination and the results were satisfactory, and the staff are again to be congratulated on maintaining a consistently high hygienic standard.

PART I OF THE ACT

1.—*Inspections* for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector)

Premises	M/c line No.	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	1	7	21	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	2	158	127	11	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ... ..	3	18	6	3	—
Total ... ..	—	183	154	14	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT—OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list	No. of cases of default in sending lists	Section 110			Section 111		
			No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	No. of Prosecutions	Notices served	Prosecutions		
Wearing apparel: making, etc. ...	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ... ..	47	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

2.—Cases in which *defects* were found

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
		Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	4	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	7	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	8	2	2	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)						
(a) Insufficient ...	9	3	2	1	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	1	1	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)						
... ..	12	9	8	4	1	—
Total ...	—	17	15	5	4	—

## SECTION D. HOUSING

During 1955 the following premises were erected and occupied :

### *Council Schemes*

Houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
Flats	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

### *Other Persons*

Houses and bungalows	...	...	...	...	54
----------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Total ...	202
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The quarterly returns made to the Ministry showed that 52 houses were made fit during the year following informal action, and that a further 19 houses were enlarged, improved and repaired under the 1954 Act.

## SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### *Meat, Milk and other Foods*

Full details of the work carried out will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. There is now only one manufacturer of ice cream and the sample results proved satisfactory.

### *Clean Food Campaigns*

There was no special campaign. Food shops and food preparing places are regularly inspected and opportunity is then taken to give advice on the clean handling of food to the personnel concerned.

(1) The types of food premises in Letchworth are as follows : butchers, 18 ; cafes, refreshment houses and snack bars, 16 ; confectioners, 26 ; dairies, 6 ; fish shops, 4 ; green-grocers and fruiterers, 10 ; grocers and provision merchants, 29 ; food warehouses, 3 ; bakehouses, 5 ; mineral water manufacturer, 1 ; potato crisp manufacturer, 1 ; margarine manufacturer, 1 ; dehydrated food manufacturer, 1 ; bacon factory and meat product manufacturer, 1 ; school canteens, 11 ; factory canteens (serving snacks) 34, (main meals) 23.

(2) Premises registered under section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act : sale and manufacture of ice cream, 43 ; manufacture of sausages and meat products (preserved food), 20 ; registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949, dairies 6 ; retailers with premises outside the district, 2.

(3) See report of Chief Sanitary Inspector.

(4) No new educational activity.

(5) Salvaged if possible and treated in proper digester plant ; otherwise burnt or destroyed.

(6) Special examinations. Carried out as necessary.

### *Food Poisoning*

(a) Outbreaks due to identified agents :

Total outbreaks, nil ; total cases, nil.

(b) Outbreaks of undiscovered cause :

Total outbreaks, nil ; total cases, nil.

(c) Single cases :

Agent identified, one ; unknown cause, nil ; total, one.

## SECTION F. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

For the year 1955 totals of notified cases of infectious diseases (after correction) were : measles 617, whooping cough 29, acute pneumonia 5, erysipelas 3, scarlet fever 1, food poisoning 1, and acute anterior poliomyelitis 3 (non-paralytic 2 and paralytic 1).

*Measles* was epidemic in the second and early part of the third quarter.

*Scarlet fever* is seen to have declined in incidence almost to zero, with a single notified case.

*Food poisoning* was confined to one notified case, due to staphylococcal toxin, in an outbreak at a London canteen. Local educational efforts towards improved hygiene in food handling is hoped to have contributed to the absence of any local occurrence during the year.

*Acute anterior paralysis* was confined to three cases of scattered distribution in the fourth quarter. Two school girls

were non-paralytic while one young adult was markedly paralytic, with residual disablement.

*Diphtheria* was again absent from the district during the year. Despite continued rarity of this formerly dreaded disease, the offer of infant protection by immunization continues to be accepted by a good proportion of parents. For children under two years combined protection against diphtheria and whooping cough is now available from welfare centres and medical practitioners.

*Weils Disease* (Leptospiiral Jaundice). In March 1955, the death occurred of an adult male, engaged in pig keeping, in which a diagnosis of leptospiral jaundice was confirmed. The piggery, situated in an isolated area, was found considerably infested with rats—though no report of such had been made by the tenants. From one of the rats caught on the premises the specific leptospiral organism was recovered from the kidney. Energetic action was taken to draw to the notice of pig keepers, both in Letchworth and in the adjoining areas, the importance in their own interest of reporting rat infestation to the local authority and for vigilance at all times in the reduction of rat populations to a minimum.

## TUBERCULOSIS

### NEW CASES AND DEATHS DURING THE YEAR

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	2 (1)	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	2 (2)	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	32 (31)	20 (19)	2 (2)	2 (2)	—	—	—	—
25—35	39 (38)	14 (12)	1 (1)	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	11 (11)	—	1 (1)	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	2 (2)	3 (2)	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	2 (2)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	1 (1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Not known	1 (1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	88 (86)	40 (34)	6 (6)	2 (2)	—	—	—	—
Deaths allocated by Registrar-General after final transfers					—	—	—	—

*Footnote* : Figures of new cases include inward transfers from other areas, the numbers of such being shown additionally in brackets.



The actual number of new respiratory cases notified in the local population was 8 (2 males and 6 females), against totals of 11, 14 and 22 for the three preceding years. No non-respiratory forms were notified in local residents.

No deaths from any form of tuberculosis are finally credited to the district.

### CONCLUSION

All local mortality rates are again favourable, though the local birth rate is again somewhat lower than would be expected for a population of under-the-average age distribution.

I would again acknowledge every help from the chief officers of your Council and particularly my indebtedness to your Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Arthur Jump, for his unfailing helpfulness and local knowledge. The completion of this report is again made easy by his most valuable assistance.

I am, gentlemen, V. R. WALKER,

May 1956.

*District Medical Officer of Health.*

### REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

I submit my twenty-fifth Annual Report on the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors. The year was a somewhat difficult one because of the numerous staff changes. Mr. S. Pape, who was seriously injured in 1954, resigned in May to take up an appointment with the Eton Rural District. Mr. P. Adams, who commenced duties in April, resigned in December, to take up an appointment at Grantham. Mr. J. R. Adderley commenced duties in the department in July. Mr. L. Carr, the Rodent Operative, who was seriously injured in 1954, came back to duty in February.

*Housing.* In accordance with Section 1 of the 1954 Act a survey was made to ascertain whether it was necessary to declare any slum clearance areas and all the older properties, erected prior to the formation of the Garden City in 1904, were inspected in July. A report on the survey was presented to the Housing Committee and to the Health Committee that no slum clearance orders were necessary and that although a



number of properties did not fully comply with the new standard of fitness as laid down by Section 9, it would be possible to deal with most of the cases by the use of normal repair notice procedure or by making an improvement grant.

During the year twenty-three applications for improvement grants were submitted. One was withdrawn and one was refused. Works at twelve properties were completed and certified for the payment of the grant. Fourteen applications for certificates of disrepair were received and granted, and seven certificates of revocation were issued.

The overcrowding position has greatly improved ; no cases of legal overcrowding were found during the year, two cases were abated and the remaining two cases were dealt with by the issue of certificates authorizing the permitted number to be exceeded. In both instances the houses are occupied by one large family. Twelve cases of bad living conditions were found and abated.

*Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.* The number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the Abattoir was very similar to that of 1954. Only a small proportion of the meat is used for local consumption, most being sent either to the London meat markets or distributed in the form of bacon and meat products over the eastern region.

*Cysticercus bovis.* This continued to be a local problem and in August a special check on diagnosis was commenced, all the specimens being sent to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food laboratory at Weybridge. An official report has not been received but the results do indicate that the diagnosis at the slaughterhouse attained a high degree of accuracy. Details of the sites of infection are as follows:

159 cases were found during the year, giving an incidence rate of 3.87 per cent.

In 92 cases lesions were found in the head and were confined to the head in 67 cases.

In 81 cases lesions were found in the heart and were confined to that organ in 56 instances.

In 13 cases lesions were found in the diaphragm and were confined to that part in 5 cases.

In 10 cases there were 2 lesions in the head and in 1 case 4 lesions.

In 12 cases there were 2 lesions in the heart and in 2 cases 3 lesions and in 1 case 4 lesions.

In 5 cases there were 2 lesions in the diaphragm.

In 19 cases lesions were found in both heart and head.

In 4 cases lesions were found in both heart and diaphragm.

In 4 cases lesions were found in both head and diaphragm.

In 4 cases lesions were found in head, heart and diaphragm.

Supervisory work in connection with the Food Byelaws and food hygiene generally continued, as did the policy of giving advice to food handlers during the routine visits. A survey was made regarding Chinese egg albumen and it was found to be used in one establishment only. A series of samples were taken and advice as to its use was given.

Letchworth became a Food and Drugs Authority on the 1st October and the first series of samples was taken during the last quarter. Letchworth is a specified area and only tuberculin tested milk can be sold in a raw state. The only other milks that can be sold in the area are pasteurized and sterilized. The one pasteurization plant is now under the full control of this local authority.

The results of ice-cream samples were very satisfactory ; only a small quantity of ice-cream is made locally. A firm of fishmongers submitted an application for the registration of their Letchworth premises for the storage and sale of ice-cream. This application was later withdrawn.

*General Sanitation, Nuisances, etc.* The by-product plant at the Abattoir was again restricted to the treatment of certain animal by-products and no complaints of offensive smells were received during the year. A number of other industrial premises producing fumes or effluvia were kept under close observation.

As in previous years much time was spent in dealing with nomad caravan dwellers using the old highways and waste land, but the Council's purchase of a parcel of land between the old Icknield Way highway and the railway enabled us to exercise greater control and a considerable improvement had been effected by the end of the year. A small number of

caravans are licensed under the Herts County Council Act and the Council caravan site in Orchard Way was subjected to supervision.

*Atmospheric Pollution.* This again received much attention and seventy-two official smoke observations were made. Mr. G. W. White, one of the Additional Sanitary Inspectors, made a special survey of all the larger boiler installations and the compilation of this information will prove of great assistance. As a result of representations three manufacturers decided to convert to oil firing, but no changeover had taken place by the end of the year. In June a report was submitted to the Health Committee as to the advisability of installing atmospheric pollution recording apparatus. It was decided that the opinion of the atmospheric pollution branch of the Fuel Research Station should be obtained and a Mr. Goss, one of their officers, visited Letchworth in December.

*Rodent Control.* Normal rodent control work and treatment was carried out and only minor infestations were found. All the Council's undertakings received regular attention. The fatal case of Weil's disease mentioned by Dr. Walker caused a considerable amount of work and a special survey was made and prompt and effective treatment carried out.

*Infectious Disease.* Little work was necessary during the year.

*Swimming Bath and Puddling Pool.* The usual routine samples were taken and the results in the case of the swimming bath were uniformly satisfactory.

*National Assistance Act.* One case was dealt with under Section 47. This problem is a difficult one and every case entails a considerable amount of work.

*Factories and Workplaces.* Routine work continued and there is nothing special to report.

*Shops Act.* The Council is now responsible for the administration of the whole of the Shops Act and the survey of all establishments was made during the year. A number of minor contraventions were dealt with.

*The Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations 1953.* No action was necessary.

# STATISTICAL RECORDS

1st January—31st December, 1955

## GENERAL (under Public Health and Housing Acts) :

### (a) *Visits and Inspections*

Houses inspected under Public Health Acts ...	...	302
Houses reinspected under Public Health Acts ...	...	259
Houses inspected under Housing Acts ...	...	99
Houses reinspected under Housing Acts ...	...	126
Houses visited re defective dustbins ...	...	71
Visits re number of occupants ...	...	27
Improvement Grant Applications ...	...	23
,,       ,,       Visits ...	...	355
Rents Act Certificate Applications ...	...	14
,,       ,,       Visits ...	...	78
Movable dwellings inspected ...	...	41
Movable dwelling sites inspected ...	...	139
Nuisances investigated ...	...	97
Systematic investigations of district ...	...	82
Investigations re water supply ...	...	25
,,       re watercourses and ditches ...	...	26
,,       re sewers ...	...	39
,,       re industrial effluvia ...	...	13
,,       re industrial effluents ...	...	13
,,       re pigeons ...	...	1
,,       re poultry keeping ...	...	4
Visits and inspections of entertaining premises ...	...	3
,,       ,,       of swimming baths ...	...	20
,,       ,,       of paddling pool ...	...	22
,,       ,,       of waterworks ...	...	9
,,       ,,       of burial grounds ...	...	1
Smoke observations ...	...	72
Drains—smoke tested ...	...	18
Drains—water tested ...	...	55
Drains—colour tested ...	...	25

Visits to works outstanding and in progress	...	...	...	...	...	384
Visits to stables	...	...	...	...	...	5
Visits to piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	53
Visits to refuse tips	...	...	...	...	...	60
Visits re rodent infestation	...	...	...	...	...	1590
Visits to public conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	47
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	290
Samples of effluent submitted for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	—
.. .. water submitted for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	5
.. .. swimming bath water	...	...	...	...	...	28
.. .. paddling pool water	...	...	...	...	...	9
Food waste collection and salvage	...	...	...	...	...	2
Civil Defence	...	...	...	...	...	3
Hostels	...	...	...	...	...	8

(b) *Infestations*

				Council Houses	Other Houses	Visits
Bugs	...	...	...	1	3	8
Fleas	...	...	...	2	4	4
Lice	...	...	...	—	3	4
Beetles and cockroaches				7	15	26
Flies	...	...	...	3	6	10
Mosquitoes	...	...	...	—	1	—
Wasps' nests	...	...	...	19	31	100
Other pests	...	...	...	131	34	200

## SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

(a) *Visits and Inspections*

Meat depot	...	65	Food preparing	
Butchers' shops		81	places	...
Butchers' vans	...	16	Dairy vehicles	...
Fish shops	...	53	Cowsheds	...
Other food shops	152		Ice-cream vendors	78
Cafes	...	39	Hawkers of other	
Bakehouses	...	29	foods	...
Dairies	...	77	Canteens	...
			Hotels	...
				2

(b) *Carcasses examined*

(1) At Abattoir :

Cows ... ..	725	Calves ... ..	180
Heifers ... ..	1,165	Sheep ... ..	6,230
Bulls ... ..	11	Pigs ... ..	150,185
Steers ... ..	2,200		

(2) At shops, other premises and vans :

Beef Qs.		Calves ... ..	2
(i) English ... ..	58	Sheep ... ..	16
(ii) Imported ... ..	4	Pigs ... ..	15
Boneless mutton	—	Poultry ... ..	8
„ beef ... ..	—		

(c) *Condemned as unfit for human food*

(1) At Abattoir :

34 cow carcasses	3 calves' heads
8 other beasts' carcasses	3 „ plucks
1 side English beef	10 „ lungs
36 forequarters English beef	1 „ heart
4 hindquarters English beef	1 „ liver
2,235 lb. English beef	10 „ kidneys
352 beasts' heads	4 „ mesenteries
974 „ lungs	4 „ spleens
207 „ hearts	4 „ guts
422 „ livers	3 „ other organs
161 „ kidneys	149 pig carcasses
326 „ spleens	30 forequarters English pork
105 „ mesenteries	21 hindquarters English pork
315 „ guts	4,598 lb. English pork
679 „ other organs	2,770 pigs' heads
6 calf carcasses	1,265 „ plucks
49 lb. English veal	21,580 „ lungs
	2,018 „ hearts
	6,196 „ livers
	1,520 „ kidneys

(c) *Condemned as unfit for human food*—(cont.)

1,757 pigs' spleens	75 sheeps' hearts
1,200 .. mesenteries	111 .. livers
1,764 .. guts	9 .. kidneys
2 sheeps' carcasses	1 .. spleen
33 lb. English mutton	3 .. mesenteries
2 sheeps' heads	2 .. guts
10 .. plucks	89 .. other organs
241 .. lungs	Total weight :
	188,573 lb.

(2) At wholesale depot, shops and vans :

63 cans corned beef	4 turkeys
75 cans corned pork	90 lb. fish fillets
6 cans mutton	336 lb. dogfish
1 can brawn	8 lb. catfish
1 can tongue	16 lb. cod
87 cans meat products	35 lb. haddock
189 lb. English beef	30 lb. prawns
40 lb. imported beef	59 cans fish
1 beast's liver	72 cans milk
42 lb. English mutton	3 cans cream
1,096 lb. English pork	67 lb. cheese
2 pigs' heads	560 cans vegetables
12 .. plucks	444 cans fruit
1 box pigs' kidneys	2 lb. jam
194 lb. ham	4 lb. preserve

(d) *Slaughter of animals*

Regular notices of slaughter received	...	...	1
Notices of occasional or emergency slaughter received	...	...	68
Applications for licences to slaughter animals	...	...	23
Number of licences granted to slaughtermen	...	...	23
Amount of fees received	...	...	£1/4/-

# CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED (EXCLUDING SHOPS)

	Cattle excluding			Sheep and	Pigs		
	cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pork	Baconers	Horses
Number killed							
number inspected	3,376	725	180	6,230	84,539	65,646	—

## All Diseases except

### Tuberculosis

(1) Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	16	5	2	102	38	—
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	831	333	6	345	8,865	5,484	—
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	9.5	48.1	6.1	5.5	10.6	8.4	—

### Tuberculosis only

(1) Whole carcasses condemned ...	7	18	—	—	6	3	—
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	238	141	1	—	1,599	1,146	—
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	7.2	21.9	0.5	0.0	1.8	1.7	—

### Cysticercosis

(1) No. of cases ...	154	5	—	—	—	—	—
(2) No. refrigerated							
(a) carcasses ...	102	1	—	—	—	—	—
(b) parts ...	52	4	—	—	—	—	—
(3) No. of carcasses totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—



*Cow udder infection.* As during previous years an examination was made of the udders of all cows slaughtered, and the results are as follows:

	Ten years 1946-1955	1955
Number of cows slaughtered ...	11,326	725
Tubercular type lesions found in udder and/or supramammary lymphatic glands ... ..	332 = 2.9%	—
Other udder infection ... ..	1,942 = 17.1%	33 = 4.5%
<i>Total</i> udder infection ... ..	2,276 = 20%	33 = 4.5%
Tubercular cows having mammary lesions ... ..	7.3%	—
	(221 in 3,009 cases)	

#### (e) *Milk Supply*

Four farms are registered by the Ministry of Agriculture, three being licensed for the production of Tuberculin Tested milk. There are eight distributors of milk, six having premises within the urban district. All are licensed to retail Tuberculin Tested milk and pasteurized milk. One retailer is licensed to pasteurize milk.

#### Summary of results of milk samples taken :

	Tuberculin tested milk		Tuberculin Tested	Pasteurized	Sterilized
	(a) Raw	(b) Channel Island Pasteurized	(Pasteurized) milk	milk	milk
Number taken ... ..	—	11	40	53	9
Methylene blue test :					
Number submitted	—	8	23	32	—
Satisfied ... ..	—	8	23	31	—
Failed ... ..	—	—	—	1	—
B. Coli :					
Number submitted	—	—	—	—	—
Absent in 1/100ml.	—	—	—	—	—
Present ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Phosphatase test :					
Number submitted	—	11	40	53	—
Passed ... ..	—	10	40	53	—
Failed ... ..	—	1	—	—	—
Turbidity test :					
Number submitted	—	—	—	—	9
Passed ... ..	—	—	—	—	9
Failed ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

### *Milk Acidity Tests*

Number carried out at office	...	...	...	...	5
Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	5
Unsatisfactory	...	...	...	...	—

### *Special Milk Samples*

Number taken : 4.

Three biological—negative to tuberculosis and brucella abortus.

One condition of bottle—results indeterminate.

### *Ice Cream*

Methylene blue test :

Number submitted	...	...	35	
Classified as Grade I	...	...	26)	Satisfactory
Classified as Grade II	...	...	7)	
Classified as Grade III	...	...	1)	Unsatisfactory
Classified as Grade IV	...	...	1)	

Ingredient samples :

Number submitted —.

Lollies—ice cream or milk :

Number submitted	...	...	...	7
B. Coli absent	...	...	...	1
presumptive present	...	...	...	5
faecal present	...	...	...	4

Lollies—fruit :

Number submitted	...	...	...	2
pH result :	4.0			

### *(f) Food Samples*

Sausages	...	...	2	No pathogens isolated.
Sausage meat	...	...	2	" " "
Chinese egg albumen—number submitted	...	...	...	4
Salmonella/Shigella isolated	...	...	...	1
" " not isolated	...	...	...	3

(g) *Food and Drugs Samples*

ARTICLE	Number examined			Number adulterated		
	Formal	Informal	Private	Formal	Informal	Private
Milk ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	—
Lard ... ..	—	2	—	—	2	—
Sausages, beef ...	—	1	—	—	—	—
.. pork ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—
Sausage meat, pork	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ... ..	6	5	—	—	2	—

Note: Lard contained excess moisture, withdrawn from retail sale.

## FOOD BYELAWS

Visits and inspections ... ..	8
Number of contraventions found ... ..	—
Number of contraventions remedied ... ..	—

## INFECTIOUS DISEASE

(a) *Visits and Inspections*

General ... ..	61
Food poisoning ... ..	7
Re health clinic cases ... ..	2
Specimens taken to laboratory ... ..	5
Hospitals ... ..	3
Schools ... ..	7
Nurseries ... ..	3
Number of school notices sent ... ..	2

(b) *Disinfection*

General cases ... ..	25 rooms
Tuberculosis cases ... ..	7
Schoolrooms ... ..	1
Hospital wards ... ..	1
Vehicles ... ..	—
Library books ... ..	19
Disinfestation ... ..	25

## *Disposal of the Dead*

National Assistance Act, Section 50—

Number of cases ...	...	...	...	...	—
Number of visits ...	...	...	...	...	—

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

			No. on Register	Inspections	Notices
Mechanical factories ...	...	...	158	127	11
Non-mechanical factories ...	...	...	7	21	—
Building operations ...	...	...	18	6	3
Workplaces ...	...	...	46	35	—
Outworkers ...	...	...	47	1	—

## *Defects found and remedied*

				Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness ...	...	...	...	1	1
Want of ventilation ...	...	...	...	1	1
Want of drainage of floors ...	...	...	...	2	2
Other nuisances ...	...	...	...	5	4
Sanitary accommodation :					
Insufficient ...	...	...	...	3	2
Unsuitable or defective ...	...	...	...	1	1
Other offences ...	...	...	...	9	8
Matters referred to H.M. Inspector of Factories ...	...	...	...	...	4
Matters referred by H.M. Inspector of Factories ...	...	...	...	...	3

## PETROLEUM ACTS

Visits and inspections ...	...	...	...	...	67
Number of contraventions found ...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of contraventions remedied ...	...	...	...	...	8
Number of licences granted :					
(a) Petroleum spirit and products ...	...	...	...	...	47
(b) Carbide of calcium ...	...	...	...	...	3

Amount of fees received—£37

## SHOPS ACTS

Number of shops on register ... ..	223
Visits and inspections ... ..	101
Number of contraventions found ... ..	10
Number of contraventions remedied ... ..	3

## GAME LICENCES

Visits and inspections ... ..	2
Number of licences granted ... ..	5

Amount of fees received—£1/5/-

## PET ANIMALS ACT

Visits and inspections ... ..	3
Number of contraventions found ... ..	—
Number of contraventions remedied ... ..	—
Number of licences granted ... ..	1

Amount of fees received—10/-

## RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951

Number of visits and inspections ... ..	2
Number of licences in force ... ..	1

## HAIRDRESSERS AND BARBERS BYELAWS

Number of visits and inspections ... ..	25
Number of contraventions found ... ..	—
Number of contraventions remedied ... ..	—

## OFFICES

Number of visits and inspections ... ..	13
Number of contraventions found ... ..	1
Number of contraventions remedied ... ..	1

The statistical records illustrate the scope of the work carried out during the year and I thank all members of the staff for their help and keen interest.

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June 1956.